

D<sup>2</sup> being at least 2:1.

9. In an assay device wherein a sample liquid reconstitutes a labelled reagent and carries it into a detection zone and a control zone, binding of said labelled reagent in these zones revealing the assay result, the improvement wherein said labelled reagent comprises a particulate direct label co-sensitised with

D<sup>3</sup>

(i) a first specific binding agent having specificity for an analyte, and

(ii) a non-specific protein which can participate in a control reaction with another specific binding agent which does not bind to said first specific binding agent nor participate in the formation of a complex by means of which detection of said analyte is accomplished in said detection zone.

D<sup>4</sup>

11. An assay device according to claim 9, wherein said detection zone contains an immobilised specific bind agent which acts as a direct or indirect capture means for hCG, said control zone contains an immobilised anti-rabbit IgG antibody, and said labelled reagent is coloured latex particles of diameter less than 0.5 micron, co-sensitised with an anti-hCG murine monoclonal antibody and with rabbit IgG.

#### REMARKS

This is in response to the Official Action mailed on November 14, 2002 for the above-captioned application. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, and allowance of all claims in view of the remarks herein are respectfully requested.

#### Claims Presently in the Case

Claims 2-20 are presently in the case. Claims 12-20 are allowed. Claims 3, 6, 7, 9 and 11 have been amended.